

## The Foundation of Constantinople 259

/Inch he gave his oily indicates; his belief that he was merely moving Rome from the Tiber to the Iosphorus — merely changing to a more, convenient ite. But the fact that this name dropped tint of use I most at once, and that the city was called after it, not in Latin but in Greek, shows how strongly the current was flowing towards political division.

But what attracted Constantine towards Byzantium? Precisely, of course, those advantages of situation which have attracted modern statesmen, Every one knows the story of how, after the fall of the Empire, the Emperor Alexander constantly pressed Napoleon to allow him to take Constantinople. Napoleon at length told his secretary, M. de Marbois, to bring him the largest map of Europe which he could procure, and, after poring over it for some time, he exclaimed, 'Constantinople! Never! It is the Empire of the world,' Was Napoleon wrong? The publicist of to-day returns different answers. The Mediterranean is not the all important sea it once was, and the strategical importance of Constantinople has been, greatly diminished by the construction of the British occupation of Egypt, Just as Napoleon's exclamation 'Mehmet! rather than the Sultan! it would not have soothed so to Constantinople, the Sultan's work! was so much smaller than ours and of different strategical problems catling for the Sultan's hand won the world what the Emperor's hand did not, and the Emperor's capture of Constantinople: he did not win it where he had won it,

It is said by some of the historians that the Emperor was in Constantinople to direct the city's affairs.